

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 06/17/2012 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-10 are allowed.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art, alone or in combination, does not teach or suggest a method for the production of a biologically active prosthetic device for the reconstruction of bone tissue, having the steps of: scanning a patient with CAT (Computerized Axial Tomography) in order to obtain a three-dimensional electronic model of a part of the bone and of a bone defect to be reconstructed; on the basis of the three-dimensional electronic model, producing a prototype resin model of an area of the patient's bone involved by means of a three-dimensional stereolithographic technique; by using the prototype resin model, forming a

model of the patient's bone defect to be reconstructed; forming a negative mold by using slip casting forming technology on the basis of the model of the patient's bone defect to be reconstructed, said negative mold being a negative of the patient's bone defect to be reconstructed; by using the negative mold, producing a sintered ceramic semi-finished product, the dimensions and shape of the semi-finished product being slight larger than those of the bone defect; mechanically processing and manually finishing the sintered semi-finished product to obtain a finished product having precise dimensions and shape of the bone defect; checking the finished product in terms of dimensions and shape directly on the prototype resin model and by using the negative mold.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JASON-DENNIS STEWART whose telephone number is (571)270-3080. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (alt Fridays off) 7:30-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Sweet can be reached on (571)272-4761. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

If there are any inquiries that are not being addressed by first contacting the Examiner or the Supervisor, you may send an email inquiry to:

TC3700_Workgroup_D_Inquiries@uspto.gov.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jason-Dennis Stewart/
Examiner, Art Unit 3738
/THOMAS J SWEET/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3738